

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 OMB-01 CU-04 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /138 W

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R 111415Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7958

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 14728

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: GW, GE, PFOR, UK, FR

SUBJECT: FRG-GDR RELATIONS: NO PROGRESS IN OCTOBER 4

BAHR-KOHL TALKS

REF: BONN 13824

1. SUMMARY: FRG FONOFF HAS GIVEN US A BRIEF RUNDOWN ON OCTOBER 4 BAHR-KOHL TALKS IN EAST BERLIN. THERE WAS NO MOVEMENT ON THE ISSUE OF ESTABLISHMENT OF PERMANENT MISSIONS. BAHR'S PROPOSAL FOR A BEGINNING OF NEGOTIATIONS ON SPORTS EXCHANGES WAS TURNED DOWN. AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE WAS REACHED THAT THE TWO SIDES COULD BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS ON CERTAIN AREAS OF COOPERATION (AS YET UNSPECIFIED TO US BY FONOFF) IN NOVEMBER, BUT CIVIL AVIATION IS NOT INCLUDED. A WEST GERMAN SOURCE WHO WAS IN EAST BERLIN LAST WEEK TALKED TO REPORTEDLY KNOWLEDGEABLE EAST GERMAN SOURCES AND TOLD EMBOFF OF HIS IMPRESSIONS OF GDR POSITION ON RELATIONS WITH FRG. END SUMMARY.

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2. KOHL REPORTEDLY STONEWALLED ON THE QUESTION OF THE

PERMANENT MISSIONS, STICKING TO THE GDR POSITION THAT THE MISSIONS SHOULD BE ACCREDITED TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRIES IN BONN AND EAST BERLIN, RESPECTIVELY. SINCE BAHR'S POSITION HAD NOT CHANGED, I.E. THAT THE MISSIONS SHOULD BE ACCREDITED TO THE CHANCELLERY AND COUNCIL OF MINISTERS RESPECTIVELY, THERE WAS NO MOVEMENT WHATSOEVER ON THIS DIFFICULT ISSUE.

3. KOHL IS REPORTED TO HAVE TURNED DOWN AN FRG PROPOSAL TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT ON SPORT EXCHANGES. (FYI: THE FONOFF DID NOT KNOW WHETHER KOHL'S NEGATIVE POSITION WAS EXPLAINED, I.E. BECAUSE OF THE DIFFICULTIES CONNECTED WITH INCLUSION OF WEST BERLIN, OR WHETHER IT WAS SIMPLY A FLAT TURN-DOWN.) THE GDR SIDE DID AGREE, HOWEVER, TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS OF CERTAIN OTHER AGREEMENTS ENVISAGED IN THE BASIC RELATIONS TREATY IN NOVEMBER. (FYI: WE WILL BE CHECKING FURTHER TO DETERMINE SPECIFICALLY WHAT SORTS OF AGREEMENTS THE FRG HAS IN MIND.)

4. A RELIABLE WEST GERMAN SOURCE VISITED EAST BERLIN LAST WEEK TO DISCUSS THE PROSPECTS FOR FRG-GDR RELATIONS WITH EAST GERMAN OFFICIALS, INCLUDING THAT WELL-KNOWN CONTACT HERMAN VON BERG. ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCE, THE EAST GERMANS INTEND TO STALL THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PERMANENT MISSIONS FOR AS LONG AS MAY BE REQUIRED TO HAVE THEIR POSITION ON THE MISSION'S PLACE OF ACCREDITATION ACCEPTED BY THE FRG. THE GDR IS REPORTEDLY PREPARED TO WAIT A YEAR IF NECESSARY, SINCE IT IS SAID TO BE IN NO HASTE ABOUT THE MISSIONS' ESTABLISHMENT.

5. THE EAST GERMANS ARE SAID TO BE AWARE THAT THEY

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USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 OMB-01 CU-04 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /138 W

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CANNOT TAKE A TOTALLY NEGATIVE APPROACH, LEST THIS GET IN THE WAY OF THE SOVIET/EE DETENTE EFFORTS. THEY WILL REPORTEDLY SHOW THEIR "GOOD WILL" BY AGREEING TO NEGOTIATION OF SOME OF THE MORE TECHNICAL AGREEMENTS DESCRIBED IN THE BASIC RELATIONS TREATY. THEY WILL CHOOSE THOSE AGREEMENTS FROM WHICH THEY STAND TO GAIN MOST, HOWEVER, LEAVING THOSE OF POTENTIAL BENEFIT TO THE FRG ASIDE.

6. OUR SOURCE TOLD US THAT THE EAST GERMANS HAVE ALSO BECOME HIGHLY IRRITATED BY WHAT THEY CONSIDER FRG PRES-SURE ON THE THREE ALLIES (US, UK AND FRANCE) TO HOLD OFF SENDING AMBASSADORS TO EAST BERLIN (IN THE CASE OF THE UK AND FRANCE) OR, IN THE US CASE, ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE GDR. THE EAST GERMANS ARE REPORTEDLY CONSIDERING, THEREFORE, SPINNING OUT THE FRG-GDR TALKS ON DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS UNTIL THE THREE ALLIES GET AROUND TO SENDING AMBASSADORS TO EAST BERLIN. (FYI: THE GDR IS APPARENTLY AWARE OF THE PRESSURE BY THE UK AND FRANCE TO SEND AMBASSADORS SOON.) THE GDR INTENTION IS SEEMINGLY TO HAVE THE FRG PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

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SENTATIVE SHOW UP AFTER ALL OTHER CHIEFS OF MISSION ARE IN PLACE.

7. OUR SOURCE CONCLUDED BY STATING THAT HE PERSONALLY SAW LITTLE ROOM FOR HOPE FOR ANY EARLY MOVEMENT ON THE MISSIONS, OR IN THE AREA OF INNER-GERMAN RELATIONS GENERALLY. HE FORESEES A HARD ROAD AHEAD FOR THE FRG NEGOTIATORS. THE NEXT BAHR-KOHL MEETING IS SET FOR OCTOBER 23 IN BONN. COMMENT: WE TEND TO THINK OUR SOURCE'S CONCLUSION IS CORRECT.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BONN14728
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS HILLENRAND
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731039/aaaabcos.tel
Line Count: 166
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: BONN 13824
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01-Aug-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <20-Sep-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRG-GDR RELATIONS: NO PROGRESS IN OCTOBER 4 BAHR-KOHL TALKS
TAGS: PFOR, GE, GC, UK, FR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005